

### **REMARKS**

In reply to the Advisory Action dated October 4, 2006, Applicants file herewith a RCE, so this Amendment and Reply should be considered prior to examining the application after RCE. Claims 1-7, 9-12 and 14-16 were pending in the application and the Examiner rejects claims 1-7, 9-12 and 14-16. Support for the amendments may be found in the originally-filed specification, claims, and figures. No new matter has been introduced by these amendments. Applicants assert that the application is in condition for allowance and reconsideration of the pending claims is requested.

The Examiner asserts that the recitation of "subjecting the biological fluid sample to heat treatment under denaturing temperature conditions of about 37°C (28.62F) to about 55°C (131°F)" is not supported by the specification. Applicants claims do not include "denaturing temperature conditions"; however, Applicants assume that the Examiner intended to assert that "non-denaturing temperature conditions of about 37°C (98.6°F)" are not supported the specification. Applicants respectfully disagree; however, to expedite prosecution, Applicants amend claims 1 and 16 to recite "non-denaturing temperature conditions of ~~about 37°C~~ to about 55°C."

The Examiner concedes in the current Advisory Action and Office Action of July 21, 2006 that there is guidance in the specification for increased sensitivity by heating at 55QC (131QF), so Applicants assert that, as amended, the claims are in condition for allowance.

### **CONCLUSION**

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. **19-2814**. Applicants invite the Examiner to telephone the undersigned if the Examiner has any questions regarding this Reply or the present application in general.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: November 20, 2006

By: 

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